

ARFI



METRO POLIS

ELECTRO MOVIE CONCERT BY ACTUEL REMIX
FULL RESTORED VERSION, FRITZ LANG (1927)
ACTUEL REMIX : XAVIER GARCIA, GUY VILLERD (LAPTOP)
REMIX FROM IANNIS XENAKIS AND RITCHIE HAWTIN



METROPOLIS

cin'electro concert by Actuel remix

Full version restauréd (2h33). Fritz Lang (1927)

Original music : ACTUEL REMIX (X. Garcia & G. Villerd : laptop)
remix of Ritchie Hawtin et Iannis Xenakis). T. Cousin (sound)

Creation in January 2012 at the Institute Lumière / Lyon, France.
In collaboration with Institute Lumière ans Mk2

> Video clip : www.arfi.org/metropolis

> CD « Metropolis » (Arfi Label - AM056 - 2013)

Distrib. Abeille Musique and Les Allumés du Jazz)



Metropolis : full version restaured (2010)

By Fritz Lang with Alfred Abel, Gustav Fröhlich, Brigitte Helm, Rudolf Klein-Rogge.
Screenplay by Thea von Harbou. Germany - 1927 - 2h33 - B&W.

In an immense megalopolis of the third millennium, the workers are a caste of slaves relegated to living in an underground city, while a privileged elite live in a paradisiacal world of idleness. Freder, the son of the city leader, falls in love with Maria, a young woman from the catacombs... A gigantic and visionary fresco of the silent era, Metropolis is the culmination of the German expressionist movement and also a pinnacle of silent film. Continuing the pessimistic tone of "The Cabinet of Dr Caligari", Fritz Lang increases its scope to embrace architectural and social order. He reported that «Metropolis was born from [his] first sight of the skyscrapers of New York in October 1924.»

This version was presented at Berlin in 1927 but then underwent cuts by Paramount in order to facilitate its exploitation. The amputated scenes were considered lost until a full version was found in the Cinema Museum of Buenos Aires, creating a wave of excitement amongst movie lovers.



New music for Metropolis?

The recent release of the restored full-length version of Metropolis offers ACTUEL REMIX the opportunity to confront their musical project with Fritz Lang's film. The universe of the film (the mechanics of triumphant modernity, automation crushing humanity...) offers exciting openings when linked to the machines used by the duo (computers, software, samplers, etc). The rich modernity and the raw power of the 'Xenakis material' admirably serves the expressionist style of the film. The rhythmically pulsating and pure world of Richie Hawtin is the 'motor', the vital pulse and musical framework of this concert film. The length of the restored version (2h33) is also a fascinating playground for electronic music which can really be used to its fullest in the expanse of a longer time-frame. Without forgetting their illustrious predecessors (including Jeff Mills in 2001 and Art Zoyd in 2002) it is clear that the resolutely 'electro' music of ACTUEL REMIX shows this cinematic masterpiece in a different light.



ACTUEL REMIX and METROPOLIS

To create the music for «Metropolis», Actuel Remix worked with the sounds of Richie Hawtin, a key figure of the techno scene, and with the work of Iannis Xenakis, one of the musical pioneers of the 20th century. The double CD «Metropolis» was released in November 2013 on the Arfi Label.

ACTUEL REMIX...

.Actuel Remix is an 'electro' duo formed by Arfi musicians Guy Villerd and Xavier Garcia, who have been working on projects in which machines and a boiling mass of musical materials function in symbiosis (« Ces Messieurs », « Electric Duo », « Old, Blind & Deaf », and now « Actuel Remix »). Old, Blind & Deaf resulted in the album « Colonisation » (for 2 laptops - Arfi Label - AM046 - 2009 - Distrib. Abeille Musique and Les Allumés du Jazz) around the theme of the Algerian war, and more recently, « Chant Bien Fatal » (for 2 laptops and 4 instruments - Arfi Label - AM050 - 2011 - Distrib. Abeille Musique and Les Allumés du Jazz) presented a remix of the music of Maurice Merle.

ACTUEL REMIX brings together the music of major players from the 'electro' scene with that of so-called 'contemporary' composers for the pleasure of confronting two styles of modern music and to break down the reputedly watertight barriers between them.

«The rules that we fixed for this game are far more than the movements of a DJ or the application of a simple concept. For us it is a real question of composition with the aim of creating a hybrid objet which is certainly unusual, yes, but above all musical and alive.»

Electro Remix of the music of...

Richie HAWTIN...



With a career going back more than 20 years, he is one of the most important artists currently working in electronic music. Initially active on the techno and acid scenes in North America, he subsequently moved on to a more minimalist and experimental style using the latest composing and DJ technologies. He currently lives in Berlin.

« My music contains all kinds of fluctuations and movements, sometimes it's so slight that you only notice them when they have already happened. This was the kind of thing that amazed me when I was young, or later when I started listening to the music of Steve Reich or Philip Glass. In their music there are these themes that evolve and change without us really being aware of it. I use this idea a lot, in my own way ».



... and Iannis XENAKIS

Xenakis, whose reputation is well-established, has continually linked mathematics, physics, graphic techniques and composition. He was also one of the first to use computers to calculate form, and later for sound synthesis with his UPIC.

Other than his interest in computers and formal musical structure (which links us both to him and to Richie Hawtin), we cannot fail to be struck by the extremely «raw» and «rough» aspect of his sound universe. Whatever the instruments, we recognise the sound of Xenakis immediately. The originality of his language (rhythmic games, a special way of treating mass, tones, voices, specific .





ARFI



Association à la Recherche d'un Folklore Imaginaire
A collective of musicians

Arfi was founded in 1977 by a group of professional musicians, and is one of the oldest French (and perhaps even European) collectives in the world of jazz and improvised music.

Formed by the Workshop de Lyon, the Marvelous Band (both groups were the founders of Arfi) and La Marmite Infernale (Arfi's big band), their repertoire inhabits a wide musical universe: from modern jazz to improvised music, Arfi's music speaks many languages. It is alive, learned and popular, traditional and modern, inspired, playful and played in all kinds of circumstances.

Over the past 10 years, Arfi gave more than one hundred concerts per year, in France and abroad. The group is also engaged in several residencies, collaborations with other artists and scheduled projects for amateur musicians. Over 50 albums have been recorded since the creation of the collective.

Arfi benefits from the support of the Ministry for Culture and Communication (Drac Rhône-Alpes), the Rhône-Alpes region, the City of Lyon, and Sacem.

Contact Arfi

Pierre-Henri Frappat - manager : phfrappat@arfi.org

Renaud Paulet : booking : rpaulet@arfi.org - +33 (0)4 72 98 22 02

16 rue Pizay BP 1102 69202 Lyon Cedex 01

Tél : +33 (0)4 72 98 22 00 Fax : +33 (0)4 72 98 22 09

arfi@arfi.org - www.arfi.org